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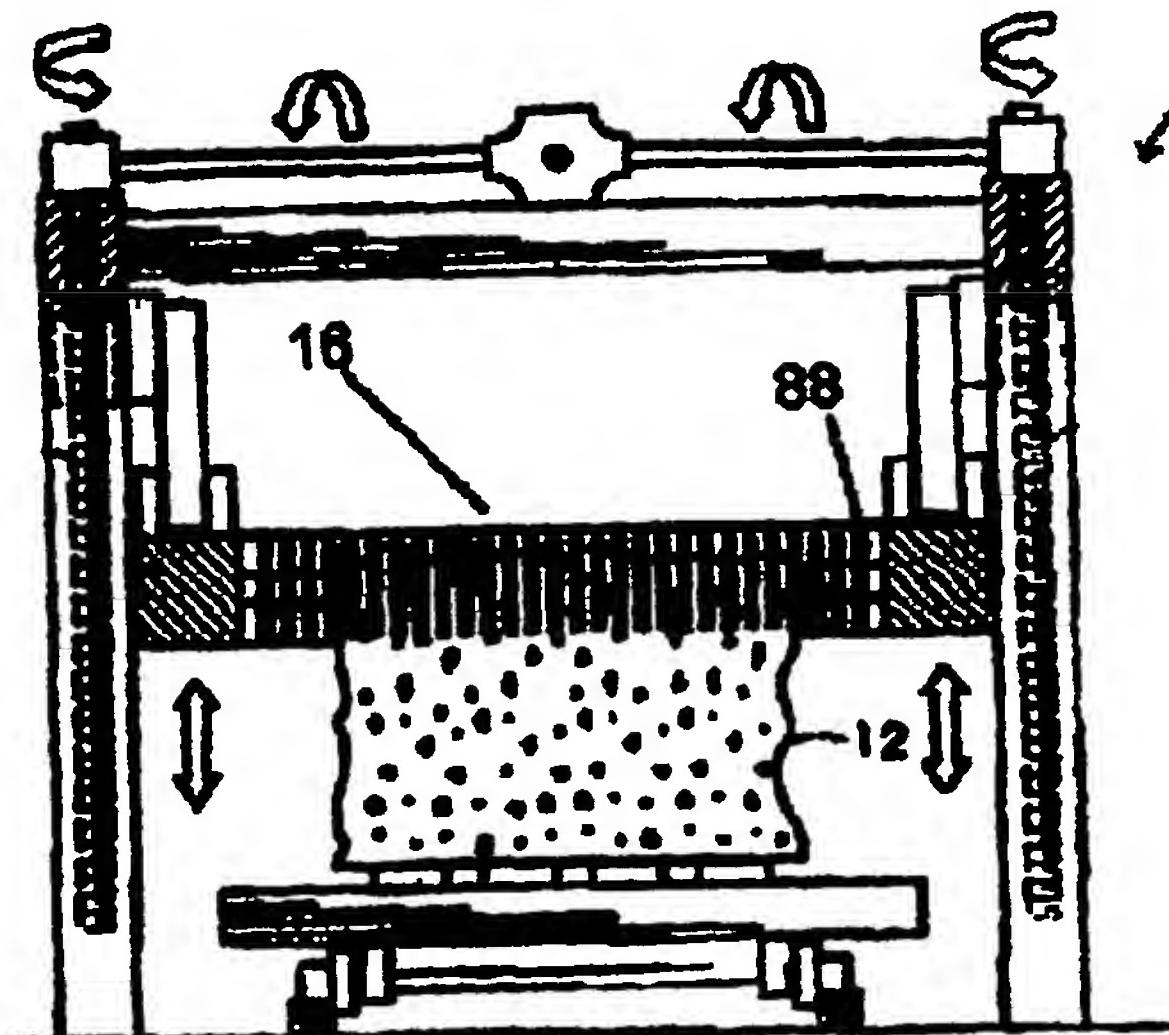
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(54) Title: GRANITE SLABS CUT WITH FRAME SAW EMPLOYING BLADES WITH DIAMOND-CONTAINING SEGMENTS AND METHOD OF CUTTING THEREOF



(57) Abstract: A graphite block cut into slabs by a sawing device comprising a plurality of generally parallel, spaced-apart blades with each of the blades having a plurality of cutting segments mounted thereon, each of the cutting segments comprising a continuous phase impregnated with a superabrasive material selected from one of natural diamond, synthetic diamond, cubic boron nitride, and combinations thereof; wherein each of the granite slabs as cut from the block has a surface roughness Ra of less than 500  $\mu$ -in, and with thickness variation of 2 mm or less from a nominal slab target.

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